



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of an **Environment** Committee Meeting held on
Monday on 7th May 2024 at 6.30pm

Present:

Chair **Councillor Peter Hickman**
Councillors: **Hazel Barrett and Guy Valentine-Neale**
Clerk: **Gaye Thomas**

1. **To elect a chair for the duration of the meeting: Councillor Peter Hickman**
 Proposed by: Cllr Guy Valentine-Neale
 Seconded by: Cllr Hazel Barrett
 Agreed by all.
2. **Apologies for Absence;** Cllrs Susan Claris, Rosa Morris & Nicola South
3. **Declarations of Interest:** Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Council's Code of Conduct and by the Localism Act 2011.- there were none.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting** - that the minutes of the last meeting held on 8th January 2024 having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record, and signed.
 Proposed by Cllr Hazel Barrett
 Seconded by Cllr Guy Valentine-Neale
5. **Environment Committee end of year report - to be discussed.**
 The end of year report and the action list were discussed together, and it was noted that there were ongoing communications between the parish and UK Power Networks over the use of the Boat House roof for the placing of solar panels. It was felt that it was hopeful that the dialogue continued and that the possibility of a formal agreement between the two parties could be reached. It was noted that Councillor Simon Horton was actively involved in the discussion, and he was thanked for his efforts.
 It was noted that further discussion regarding the use of the 'Solarium' area was ongoing, including the provision of a concrete table tennis table. Further discussion was deferred until the July meeting. It was noted that New Romney would be following the parish's lead regarding undertaking their own sea water testing.
 It was noted that Councillor Tim Prater had spoken to the Environment Agency regarding the repositioning of the water testing point to Granville Parade and this had been positively received. It was noted Southern Water had extended the date for their required response to the open letter from the parish regarding the Seaside Award, for another twenty working days.
 It was agreed to remove No 23 from the action list as the noise from motorbikes would seem to have decreased considerably, however it was proposed to add an additional row for the speed of vehicles on Military Road.
 Further discussions on both Action Lists and the end of year report were deferred until the July meeting.
6. **Action List 2023/24 – as above**

7. **Action List 2024/25-** deferred until July's meeting.
8. **Seawater testing-** It was noted that it was important to make the public aware of the quality both good and bad of the sea water in Sandgate. It was proposed that signage should be used as an indicator but what wording or pictorial form this would take would be deferred for discussion until the next meeting. It was noted that any discussions regarding signage should include the businesses on the Sandgate Seafront, the Boat House, and the Rowing Club.
9. **Village Green-cycle racks** it was proposed that the cycle racks should be supplied and installed on the Village Green for £466.00 exclusive of VAT.
Proposed by Council Guy Valentine-Neale
Seconded by Councillor Hazel Barret
Agreed by all.

It was noted at the Full Council meeting of 22nd April 2024, that Council approved the budget carry forwards from the last fiscal year for the cycle rack and other items from/to Environmental Budget – Scribe Item Code 35

10. **Information**
It was noted that the cycle path from Hythe-Dymchurch was becoming largely impassable.
Action: Clerk to contact HTC & FHDC to request that this could be investigated, and if possible, the situation improved.
11. **Date of the Next Meeting:** 8th July 2024